

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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UNITED STATES DELEGATION
TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release No. 968
September 21, 1950

Following is the text of the letter delivered to Secretary
General Trygve Lie in regard to the "Question of Formosa."

"In accordance with Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, the Delegation of the United States offers the following observations in connection with and in support of its request that the "question of Formosa" be placed on the agenda of the Fifth Session of the General Assembly as an additional item of an important and urgent character within the meaning of Rule 20.

"In the joint Declaration at Cairo of December 1, 1943 the President of the United States, the British Prime Minister, and the President of China stated 'it is their purpose that * * * Manchuria, Formosa and the Pescadores shall be restored to the Republic of China * * *. The aforesaid three Great Powers, mindful of the enslavement of the people of Korea, are determined that in due course Korea shall become free and independent.' In the Potsdam Proclamation of July 1945, defining the terms for Japanese surrender the three Allied leaders declared that the terms of the Cairo Declaration should be carried out. The provisions of this Proclamation were accepted by Japan at the time of its surrender. General Order No. 1 of the Japanese Imperial Headquarters issued pursuant to the terms of surrender provided for the surrender of the Japanese Forces in China (excluding Manchuria) and Formosa to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek. Formal transfer of Formosa to China was to await the conclusion of peace with Japan or some other appropriate formal act. For the past five years, Chinese authority has been exercised over the island.

"On June 25, 1950 a breach of the peace occurred in the Pacific area in the form of an armed attack against the Republic of Korea. In the resolution adopted on that day the Security Council took the first step toward restoring the peace. On June 27 the President of the United States stated that the North Korean forces had defied the orders of the Security Council of the United Nations issued to preserve international peace and security. In these circumstances

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03:10:30:00

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"The Government of the United States has made it abundantly clear that the measures it has taken with respect to Formosa were without prejudice to the long-term political status of Formosa, and that the United States has no territorial ambitions and seeks no special position or privilege with respect to Formosa. The United States believes further that the future of Formosa and of the nearly 8 million people inhabited there should be settled by peaceful means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

"The limited question, that of charges by the Peiping Regime against the United States, as set forth in Document S/1715 remains before the Security Council. The United States considers that the General Assembly could make an important contribution towards carrying out the purposes and principles of the United Nations in the Pacific Area if it should study the general situation with respect to Formosa with a view to formulating appropriate recommendations."

Signed, Dean Acheson
Chairman, United States Delegation
to the General Assembly

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